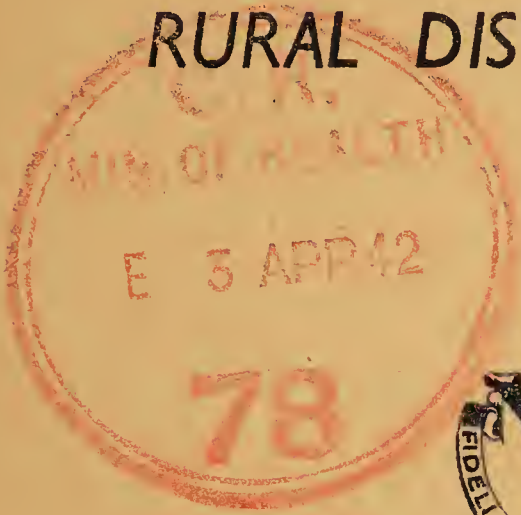


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PLYMPTON ST. MARY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1939

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

PLYMPTON ST. MARY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

UNDERHILL (Plymouth) Ltd., Printers

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Telephone No. Plympton 2244.

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. W. C. SMALES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

DR. S. NOY SCOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

MR. R. T. FEDRICK, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and Petroleum Inspector).

Second Sanitary Inspector:

MR. R. OSBORNE, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods).

Clerk:

MISS G. H. PROWSE

Small Pox Hospital.

Superintendent:

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Caretakers:

MR. AND MRS. GILLARD.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
of the
PLYMPTON ST. MARY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report for the year 1939. The report has been drawn up as far as possible in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1961.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. SMALES,

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1940.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area—70,268 acres, of which 174 are inland water.

Population—1931 Census	26,799
„ estimated to the middle of 1939	29,740

General

Rateable Value	£171,854
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Amount produced by a 1d. Rate—

£716 1s. 2d.

War and Evacuation. 713 official evacuees arrived in this area on the 2nd September, 1939. They were distributed in 7 parishes in the northern part of the district.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1939.

Live Births.	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	423	215	208	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15.89.
Illegitimate	10	4	6	
	—	—	—	
	433	219	214	
	—	—	—	
Still Births	21	9	12	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births), 46.26.
Deaths	382	198	184	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.65.
Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	11.13	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still births)
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	Nil.
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes ...	1	2.20
Total	1	2.20

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	32.33
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	30.73
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	100.00
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	56
„ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	1939	1938
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Measles	—	2
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	1	1	2
5. Diphtheria	...	1	3	3
6. Influenza	...	1	4	5
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	...	1	1	—
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	1	1	—

CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued.*

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	1939	1938
9.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory						
	System	...	...	5	4	9	22
10.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases			1	1	2	6
11.	Syphilis			—	—	—	1
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane						
	(Tabes Dorsalis)	...	...	1	1	2	2
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease			25	31	56	76
14.	Diabetes			6	6	12	11
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.			11	16	27	21
16.	Heart Disease			53	46	99	85
17.	Aneurism			—	1	1	—
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases			15	15	30	23
19.	Bronchitis			5	5	10	17
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)			9	7	16	13
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases			3	1	4	3
22.	Peptic Ulcer			2	—	2	—
23.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			—	1	1	3
24.	Appendicitis			1	1	2	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver			—	—	—	—
26.	Other Diseases of the Liver, etc.			—	1	1	5
27.	Other Digestive Diseases			1	2	3	11
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis			5	6	11	7
29.	Puerperal Sepsis			—	—	—	1
30.	Other Puerperal causes			—	1	1	2
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature						
	Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	8	4	12	22
32.	Senility			9	15	24	23
33.	Suicide			2	1	3	5
34.	Other Violence			11	4	15	15
35.	Other Defined Diseases			17	7	24	30
36.	Causes illdefined or unknown			3	—	3	2
	Diarrhoea (2 years and over)			—	2	2	—
	Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—						
	Small Pox	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—	—	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				198	184	382	419

Deaths from **Cancer** are 20 less than last year, while those from **Heart Disease** are 14 more.

Of the 56 deaths due to Cancer, 25 were males and 31 were females.

The organs affected were:—Liver 2, Stomach 9, Colon 6, other organs 39.

Deaths over 65.

There were 218, viz :—48 between 65 and 70

43	„	70	„	75
57	„	75	„	80
43	„	80	„	85
21	„	85	„	90
4	„	90	„	95
1	„	95	„	100
1	over	100		

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Public Health (Measles and Whooping Cough) Regulations 1939 came into force during the year.

The total number of notifications received was 187, compared with 156 received during the previous year.

The notifications included Scarlet Fever 42 ; Diphtheria 32 ; Pneumonia 25 ; Puerperal Pyrexia 3 ; Erysipelas 10 ; Chicken Pox 1 ; Measles 65 ; Malaria 1 ; Typhoid 1 ; Anterior Poliomyelitis 1 ; Cerebro-spinal Meningitis 3 ; Whooping Cough 1 ; Rubella 2.

Notification was satisfactory during the year.

There was an increase in the incidence of Diphtheria in the district, but a fall in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever.

Of 42 cases notified during the year 19 were amongst school children attending 10 of the Elementary Schools in the district. Cases occurred in 10 of the 18 parishes of the district, the majority (24) from the parish of Plymstock.

The cases generally were of a mild type.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
-	5	9	8	3	1	2	4	1	3	3	3

22 cases were admitted to hospital (City of Plymouth Isolation Hospital at Swilly) during the year ; 1 of these proved to be a case of Toxic Erythema and 3, cases of Tonsilitis.

The cost of Hospital treatment was £340 3s. 6d., the average cost per patient being £15 9s. 3d.

The average stay in Hospital was 33 days.

Medical Practitioners are encouraged to treat at home all mild cases of Scarlet Fever whenever a reasonable degree of isolation can be obtained in the patient's home, unless in the patient's interest hospital treatment is indicated.

TABLE SHOWING PREVALENCE OF SCARLET FEVER IN SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.
YEAR 1939.

9

SCHOOL.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Plympton St. Mary Church ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Plympton Junior ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Plymstock Senior ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Goosewell ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hooe ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Newton Ferrers ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Oreston Junior ...	-	2	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	2	-	-	8
Tamerton ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Crownhill and St. Budeaux ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Plympton Grammar ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Cornwood ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Private Schools ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
TOTALS ...	-	3	5	4	-	1	2	-	1	2	3	2	23

Diphtheria.

32 cases were notified during the year. Further investigation caused a revision of the diagnosis in 5 of these cases. The number of cases of true Diphtheria during the year being 27 as compared with 11 in the previous year.

The disease was generally mild. There were, however, 4 severe cases with 4 deaths.

There were 13 cases amongst the Elementary School children of the district.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	2	3	1	2	—	1	—	1	7	9	5

27 cases were admitted to Hospital at a cost of £544 9s. 6d., the average cost per patient being £20 3s. 4d.

The average stay in Hospital was 43 days.

During the year 161 swabs were submitted to the County Laboratory in connection with Diphtheria cases, contacts and suspects, and in following up cases after discharge from Hospital.

I should like to place on record the valuable assistance received from the County Laboratory on all occasions and the very prompt despatch by them of information regarding specimens submitted.

I would again emphasize that in the treatment of Diphtheria, serum should be given at the earliest possible moment, and preferably in one adequately large dose.

It is important to obtain immediate medical advice in cases of suspected Diphtheria.

TABLE SHOWING PREVALENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.

YEAR 1939.

SCHOOL	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Egg Buckland	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lee Moor	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Oreston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Plympton Senior	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Plympton St. Mary Church	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	6
Plympton St. Maurice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Private Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	1	14

The following cases were also admitted to the Swilly Isolation Hospital during the year :—

1 case of Anterior Poliomyelitis.

1 „ Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.

3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified and were treated at home.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Council's employees under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR YEAR 1939.

DISEASE.	Cornwood	Brixton	Bickleigh	Compton Gifford	Egg Buckland	Ermington	Harford	Holbeton	Ivybridge	Newton and Noss	Plymstock	Plympton St. Maurice	Plympton St. Mary	St. Budeaux	Shaugh Prior	Tarnerton Foliot	Wembury	Yealinton	Totals
SCARLET FEVER ...	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	3	24	1	4	2	-	2	-	-	42
DIPHTHERIA ...	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	16	-	5	1	-	-	32
ENTERIC FEVER ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PNEUMONIA ...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	6	2	6	1	3	1	-	2	25
ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
ERYSIPELAS ...	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	10
CHICKEN POX ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
MEASLES ...	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	55	2	1	-	1	1	-	-	65
CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
PUERPERAL FEVER ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
WHOOPING COUGH ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
RUBELLA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
MALARIA ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS ...	2	2	5	1	7	4	-	-	2	9	93	9	33	3	10	5	-	2	187

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) AND TOTAL DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1939.

	AGE PERIODS (NOTIFICATIONS)													Removed to Hospital	Naval and Military Cases	AGE PERIODS (DEATHS).											65 & over	Total
	Under one year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total			Under one Year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	
SMALL POX ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SCARLET FEVER ...	-	3	1	4	1	18	8	2	4	1	-	42	22	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DIPHTHERIA ...	-	1	-	2	5	11	4	-	7	1	1	32	27	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3		
ENTERIC FEVER ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
PNEUMONIA ...	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	1	7	8	3	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
PUERPERAL PYREXIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ERYSIPELAS ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
CHICKEN POX ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MEASLES ...	1	4	3	7	5	36	4	1	4	-	-	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WHOOPING COUGH	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MALARIA ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-		
RUBELLA ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTALS ...	2	8	5	14	13	70	17	7	28	14	7	187	53	8	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	4		

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

15

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES						DEATHS						Total No. of Cases	Total No. of Deaths
	PULMONARY.			Non-PULMONARY.			PULMONARY.			Non-PULMONARY.				
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total		
Under 1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1—5	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5—10	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
10—15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15—20	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
20—25	1	4	5	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	6	1
25—35	4	4	8	-	-	-	2	1	3	-	-	-	8	3
35—45	4	2	6	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	6	2
45—55	4	2	6	2	-	2	1	2	3	-	1	1	8	4
55—65	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
65 and upwards	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	15	15	30	4	1	5	6	4	10	-	1	1	35	11

With regard to the extent of notification before death, the following table shows the date of notification :—

<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Date Notified.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
M.	36	10/ 6/29	19/ 2/39
M.	49	25/ 7/33	7/ 4/39
M.	25	19/ 9/34	18/ 7/39
F.	24	25/ 2/36	16/11/39
F.	33	5/ 6/37	15/ 9/39
F.	51	29/ 1/38	31/ 3/39
M.	45	22/ 2/38	22/ 1/39
M.	67	13/ 8/38	16/ 6/39
M.	28	3/ 5/39	31/12/39
M.	43	3/ 7/39	10/11/39

The remainder were not notified in this District previous to death.

With regard to Tuberculosis affecting employees in the milk trade, no case had to be dealt with, nor had any action to be taken with regard to the compulsory removal to Hospital under Section 172, Public Health Act 1936.

SCHOOLS.

Exclusions.

During the year 67 notices were received referring to 222 children who were excluded from School because of communicable disease or because they were contacts in infected houses.

They were as follows :—Diphtheria, 13 ; Scarlet Fever, 7 ; Chicken Pox, 56 ; Measles, 66 ; Whooping Cough, 15 ; Impetigo, 7 ; Influenza and Colds, 39 ; Mumps, 3 ; Scabies, 3 ; Dermatitis, 1 ; Bronchitis, 2 ; General Debility, 1 ; Pediculosis, 1 ; Infantile Paralysis, 1 ; German Measles, 5 ; Ringworm, 2.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Clinics were held at schools in the district on 25 occasions during the year and 1003 children were protected by the two injection method, Alum Precipitated Toxin being used.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Nursing Arrangements.—The Medical Officer of Health is empowered to engage and pay for home nursing when he considers it necessary, and where it cannot be otherwise provided.

There are private Nursing Associations, in Plympton St. Mary, Plympton St. Maurice, Shaugh Prior, Cornwood, Yealmpton, Brixton, Plymstock, Crownhill and Ivybridge which are maintained by private subscriptions, aided by subsidies from the Devon County Council.

Health Visitors.—There are two working in the Plympton Area. They also act as School Nurses, Tuberculosis and Infant Life Protection Visitors.

Midwives.—The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council, which investigates cases of Maternal Mortality, and Puerperal Disease.

There are 22 practising Midwives in the district.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The Devon County Council have four centres in the District: Plympton, Crownhill, Ivybridge and Plymstock.

Venereal Diseases Clinic, at the Venereal Disease Wards, City Hospital, Plymouth. Female in-patients are also sent to St. Mary's Home, Exeter, for observation and treatment.

Orthopaedic Treatment is available through the Devon Association for Cripples' Aid at Exeter and Ivybridge, and for adults at Mount Gold Hospital, Plymouth. Clinics are available at Plymouth and Kingsbridge.

X-rays.—The Devon County Council have a clinic at Exeter.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases are admitted at any time to the Treatment Centre, City Hospital, Plymouth. In Midwives cases, free treatment is available.

Tuberculosis.—There is a Sanatorium at Hawkmoor, Bovey Tracey, to which an extension has recently been made. There are also the following Hospitals: Hawley Hospital, Barnstaple, and Ivybank Hospital, Exeter. Sydney House, Torrington, is available for delicate children.

X-ray diagnosis is undertaken by the County Council at Exeter.

Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children :—

Underwood House, Plympton (Plympton St. Mary Public Assistance Committee).

“Scattered Homes,” Crownhill (Plympton St. Mary Public Assistance Committee).

General Hospitals, used by residents :—

Prince of Wales's Hospital (Greenbank Section), Plymouth.

„ „ (Devonport Section)

„ „ Lockyer Street, Plymouth.

The City Hospital, Plymouth.

The Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth.

The Ear and Throat Hospital, Plymouth.

The Home of Rest, Plympton.

The Convalescent Home, Crownhill.

Plymouth Public Dispensary.

Isolation Hospital.—None in the District, but by arrangement with the Plymouth City Council, infectious cases requiring Hospital treatment are sent to the Swilly Isolation Hospital, Plymouth. For this a payment of 9s. a day is made, together with the cost of removal.

The Rural District Council have also an arrangement with the Paignton Urban District Council, by which infectious cases requiring hospital treatment can be sent to their Isolation Hospital.

This alternative accommodation is very useful in an emergency. Two cases were sent to Paignton during the year.

The arrangements referred to are provisional only, pending the completion and adoption of a scheme under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, for the provision of hospital accommodation for this part of the Administrative County and which scheme is under consideration.

Small Pox Hospital.—The District Council possesses a well constructed building of wood and iron near Lee Mill. There are four separate pavilions with connecting passages. It has two large wards, each for four patients, and two smaller wards each for two patients. In addition there are two rooms for a Nurse, a kitchen and a scullery. Each large ward has a bath and an earth closet. A separate building is designed for use as a laundry, mortuary and disinfecting chamber. There is also a Caretaker's Cottage. The water supply is satisfactory; it is derived from a well in the grounds.

Ambulance Facilities for Infectious Cases.—Cars can be hired from the Plymouth Isolation Hospital and from the Devon County Council.

For Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents.—The St. John Ambulance Association provide cars.

Laboratory Work.—The County Council have at Exeter a Bacteriological Laboratory for the investigation of communicable diseases as bearing upon Public Health, and for the provision of a diagnostic and consultative bacteriological service for patients who from lack of means are unable to meet the expenses of such service privately, and also for the examination of milk and water from public supplies.

Consultants.—Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia are investigated by the County Council, who have appointed Consultants who are available for consultation by Medical Practitioners in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and of any abnormality.

Before calling in Consultants, other than in cases of urgency, the County Medical Officer has to be consulted.

Provision of Antitoxin.—Antitoxin is provided free of cost by the District Council and supplied on the Authority of the Medical Officer of Health to any Medical man practising in the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of water from the principal supplies in the district were submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination, during the year.

The reports were as follows :—

1. Yealm Head Supply.

Report.—B. Coli absent in 100 ml.

Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 c.c.=Nil.

Colonies growing on agar (2 days at 37°C.)=1 per ml.

Colonies growing on agar (3 days at 22°C.)=40 per ml.

Remarks.—This sample is satisfactory bacteriologically.

2. Plympton Supply.

Report.—B. Coli absent in 100 ml.

Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 c.c.=Nil.

Colonies growing on agar (2 days at 37°C.)=10 per ml.

Colonies growing on agar (3 days at 22°C.)=60 per ml.

Remarks.—This sample is satisfactory bacteriologically.

3. Ivybridge Supply.

Report.—B. Coli absent in 100 ml.

Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 c.c.=Nil.

Colonies growing on agar (2 days at 37°C.)= 6 per ml.

Colonies growing on agar (3 days at 22°C.)=140 per ml.

Remarks.—This sample is satisfactory bacteriologically.

Food and Drugs Act.

This is administered by the Police, and I am indebted to Supt. S. F. Smith for the following information regarding the samples taken.

<i>No. of Samples taken.</i>	<i>Article.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
4	New Milk.	Genuine.
1	Pepper.	„
1	Rice.	„
1	Tapioca.	„
1	Boiled Sweets.	„
—		
8		8 Genuine

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

Bakehouses.

2 bakehouses were in the area acquired by the Plymouth Corporation as from the 1st April, 1939, and at the end of the year there were 19 bakehouses in the District. Inspections have been made at intervals during the year.

With the exception of requests for limewashing to be done and the defects enumerated in the accompanying Schedule, they have been kept in a satisfactory condition.

Factories.

50 visits of inspection have been made during the year and generally conditions have been found to be satisfactory.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. (Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES. (1)	NUMBER OF			Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)		
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	39	1		-
FACTORIES without mechanical power ...	10	-		-
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises). ...	1	-		-
TOTAL ...	50	1		-

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.				Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)		
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7) { insufficient. unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other Offences ...	-	-	-	-	-
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	3	3	-	-	-

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1)	(a)	Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	71
	(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	177
(2)	(a)	No. of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	63
	(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	156
(3)		No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(4)		No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	53

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	34
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders :	1

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	1

4.—HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	22
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	22
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	106
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	5
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	27
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	180
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

**PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF NON-COUNCIL
HOUSES DURING 1939.**

PARISH	No. of Plans Approved	Repre- senting No. of Houses	Houses com- pleted	Layout Plans Approved
Bickleigh	1	1	4	—
Brixton	1	1	2	—
Compton Gifford ...	16	60	12	—
Cornwood	—	—	—	—
Ermington	—	—	—	—
Egg Buckland	29	80	17	3
Harford	—	—	—	—
Holbeton	—	—	2	—
Ivybridge	—	—	1	—
Newton and Noss ...	17	22	7	1
Plympton St. Mary ...	30	255	110	4
Plympton St. Maurice ...	4	5	—	—
Plymstock	55	219	153	2
Shaugh	3	3	1	—
St. Budeaux	10	71	14	2
Tamerton	7	11	6	—
Wembury	29	34	15	3
Yealmpton	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	202	762	344	15

Note.—Compton Gifford, Eggbuckland and St. Budeaux to 31st March only.

In addition to the above, 4 Council houses were completed on the Hooe site, Plymstock.

WATER CONNECTIONS, 1939.

PARISH	Total	Including Meters	Con- nec- tions during 1939
Plympton St. Mary and St. Maurice	2144	74	81
Plymstock	3003	113	102
Egg Buckland	507	22	14
Brixton	94	2	1
Cornwood	41	0	0
Yealmpton	95	9	3
Shaugh	19	1	1
Holbeton	3	0	0
Ivybridge	481	20	0
Ermington	47	2	1
Wembury	230	18	60
Newton and Noss	272	9	12

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Engineer and Surveyor's Dept.

Budshead valley sewerage and sewage disposal works completed.

Ministry of Health Inquiry held, Plympton sewerage scheme.

Newton Ferners and Noss public conveniences.

300 yds. 9" sewer laid at Longcause, St. Maurice.

Ivybridge sewage disposal works commenced.

Plymstock Feeder Main and Hardwick Reservoir completed.

4" water main extended to Heybrook Bay and Wembury Point.

4" main laid to Balloon Barrage Depot, Newton Ferrers.

80 yds. 5" water main laid, Revell Park Estate.

100 „ 3" „ „ Newton Hill, Newton Ferrers.

65 „ 3" „ „ Molesworth Road, Plympton.

280 „ 4" „ „ Greenacres Estate, Billacombe.

194 „ 3" „ „ „ „ „

220 „ 3" „ „ Beach View Road, Wembury.

Water service extended to standpipe for supply at Hollocombe.

Water connections for domestic and fire purposes to several Service Establishments.

Small-pox Hospital buildings painted externally.

Plans and estimates prepared for, and work carried out in connection with the conversion of Schools at Plympton and Plymstock to First Aid Posts.

Works carried out at Plympton Old Grammar School for Gas
Mask Store.

Works carried out at George Hotel, Plympton, for A.R.P. Store.

Refuse collection service extended to Lee Moor, Wotter and
Shaugh.

Plans and estimates prepared for decontamination Stations at Plympton and Plymstock.

Housing schemes prepared for Tamerton, Pomphlett, Hooe and Plympton.

Plymstock Town Planning Scheme—Final Scheme sanctioned.

Sand bag protection of 1st Aid Posts, Warden's Posts, cleansing stations, etc., carried out.

Fire Brigade.

The number of calls received during 1939 was 11. The Auxiliary Fire Brigade Scheme was prepared late in the year and part of the necessary equipment received. The New Plymstock Fire Station buildings were commenced and a new Leyland 450-gallon fire engine ordered. Supt. P. J. Parsons was appointed in October to take charge of the Fire Brigade and Auxiliary Fire Service.

Refuse Disposal.

During 1939, 5,722 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of on the Council's tips.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1939.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I submit the following report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ending the 31st December, 1939.

In the interests of economy the usual summary of work carried out in the parishes has not been prepared, but the table of inspections indicates the many activities of the department during the year.

Much time was spent on duties connected with A.R.P. Medical Services.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

INSPECTIONS.

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	11
Houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1936	...	...	35
Houses inspected for overcrowding	....	....	119
Factories	...	...	50
Bakehouses and other Food Shops	...	...	28
Slaughterhouses, butcher shops, farms, etc.	...	...	2051
Cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	...	...	455
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	...	...	14
Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928	...	...	27
Infectious Disease Investigations	...	...	78
Complaints investigated	...	...	80
Schools Inspected	...	...	54
Public Conveniences Inspected	...	...	32
Total number of visits made	...	...	4035

WORK DONE.

New drains laid to sewers	...	...	...	...	...	11
New drains laid to cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	16
Old drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Water tests made	...	...	...	...	...	18
Smoke tests made	...	...	...	...	...	59
W.C. Apartments built	...	...	...	...	...	20
New W.C. pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	40
Flushing cisterns fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	37
Soil pipes and vent-shafts—erected	...	...	...	...	...	19
Intercepting Chambers built and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	22
Inspection Chambers built	...	...	...	...	...	30
Gully traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	39
Lavatory basins fixed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Baths fixed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Kitchen sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	30
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	98
Verminous premises disinfested	....	....	....	....	....	3
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	93
Defective roofs renewed	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	13
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Plasterwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	61
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	43
Additional windows fixed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Kitchen ranges or firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
Coppers repaired or new fixed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Doors and door fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
Staircases repaired or lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	7
Courts, yards, or passages paved	...	...	...	...	...	17
Gutters and downspouts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	10
Larders provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
Floors repaired, renewed, or sub-floor ventilation obtained	...	...	...	...	...	49
Water supplies improved	...	...	...	...	...	18
Wash-houses provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ground against house excavated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved	...	...	...	...	...	23
Samples of water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	10

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Excluding 40 dairies and cowsheds that were in the area acquired by the Plymouth Corporation as from the 1st April, 1939, there were 293 on the registers at the end of the year, made up as follows: 150 wholesale producers; 24 wholesale producers who also retail some portion of their milk; 77 producer retailers and 42 retailers only.

In regard to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, the position at the end of the year was as follows:—1 Tuberculin Tested (Certified) producer, 2 Tuberculin Tested producers, and 57 Accredited producers.

One new cowshed for 12 cows was built during the year.

The interiors, floors, walls and fittings, etc., of 7 cowsheds have been renewed.

New concrete floors and gutters have been laid in 8 cowsheds, and in 7 the lighting and ventilation have been improved. At 2 farms cooling and sterilizing rooms were built, and steam sterilizing apparatus fixed, and at 5, can-houses and cooling rooms were built.

At 3 cowsheds the water supplies have been improved, and at 2 the drainage has been improved.

455 visits of inspection have been made during the year, and numerous verbal and written notices have been given to owners and tenants regarding the condition of their premises, and the personal cleanliness and milking methods of employees.

MILK SAMPLES SENT TO THE DEVON COUNTY LABORATORY.

During the year the total number of Samples of Tuberculin Tested, Accredited, School and Ordinary milk, including repeat samples following failures, sent to the County Laboratory for examination was 275.

Of these 162 passed and 113 failed. These figures are very similar to those for the previous year.

15 Samples were submitted for report on the Biological Examination for Tuberculosis. 13 were negative and 2 inconclusive.

WORK DONE UNDER HOUSING ACT, 1936.**SLUM CLEARANCE.**

Clearance Orders were made in respect of 13 Clearance Areas, but the advent of the War put a stop to such work.

OVERCROWDING.

119 visits were made during the year.

At the beginning of the year 49 houses were still overcrowded. During the year 9 overcrowded houses have become uncrowded, by the offering of suitable Council Houses as they became vacant, and in addition 18 were in the area acquired by the Plymouth Corporation.

22 houses now remain to be dealt with and these families will have preference should any Council Houses become vacant.

Shops Act, 1934.

21 shops were inspected during the year, but in no cases were the provisions of the Act infringed.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are none in the district.

Camps Inspections.

During the year 15 camps were inspected, and found to be in a satisfactory state.

In addition, 4 visits were made to Gipsy Camps.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There is one Public Swimming Pool in the District, and three are privately owned. No complaints were received during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Particulars of the action taken during the year, and other information, are as follows :—

- | | | |
|---|------|---|
| 1. Number of Council Houses found to be infested | .... | 0 |
| 2. Number of Council Houses disinfested. | .... | 0 |
| 3. Number of other Houses found to be infested | .... | 3 |
| 4. Number of other Houses disinfested | .... | 3 |
| 5. Methods employed and insecticide used—Stripping of all
woodwork and thoroughly spraying twice at different intervals
with “Zaldecide.” | | |
| 6. Method employed for disinfesting belongings of tenants before
removal to Council Houses—None. | | |
| 7. Whether disinfestation carried out by Local Authority or
Contractor—Local Authority. | | |
| 8. Supervision or education of tenants—Advised to communicate
with Health Department when vermin are first seen, or if
reinfestation takes place. | | |

Offensive Trades.

There are none in the District.

Rag and Flock Act, 1911.

One visit was made to a factory using such material. No samples were taken during the year.

Rat and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

14 inspections were made and 1,048 red squill baits laid, chiefly on land owned or occupied by the Council.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, BUTCHERS' SHOPS, AND VEHICLES.

2 slaughterhouses were in the area acquired by the Plymouth Corporation as from 1st April, 1939, and the number in the district at the end of the year was 21.

Generally speaking, they have been conducted in a fairly satisfactory manner.

A new cooling hall was built at one slaughterhouse and in addition several minor repairs were carried out. Limewashing, painting, etc., has been general in all slaughterhouses.

The number of Butchers' Shops in the area acquired by the Plymouth Corporation was 5, and the number in the district at the end of the year was 28. These have glass fronts which guard against contamination.

Butchers' Carts that come from outside the District are periodically inspected.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

23 premises were inspected during the year, and 23 certificates of registration were issued by the Council.

EXAMINATION AND CONDEMNATION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year 2,051 visits were made for the purpose of meat and food inspection, being made up as follows :—

1196	visits to Slaughterhouses.
825	„ Butcher's Shops.
13	„ Isolated Farms.
17	„ Cottages.
<hr/>	
Total	2051
<hr/>	

In connection with these visits the following carcasses were examined :—

1950	Bovines.
1410	Sheep and Lambs.
2420	Pigs.
<hr/>	
Total	5780 carcasses examined.
<hr/>	

Total amount of unfit food destroyed :—

28 tons 19 cwt. 0 qrs. 15 lbs.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM LICENCES.

The undermentioned figures apply to the period from the 1st April, 1939, to the 31st March, 1940.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

No. of licences renewed during the above period	...	...	71
No. of new licences issued during the above period		...	6
			—
	TOTAL	...	77
			—

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM.

No. of licences renewed during the above period	4
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The total fees collected in respect of both Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium Licences amounted to £48 18s. 4d.

I remain,

M^r. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. T. FEDRICK,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

